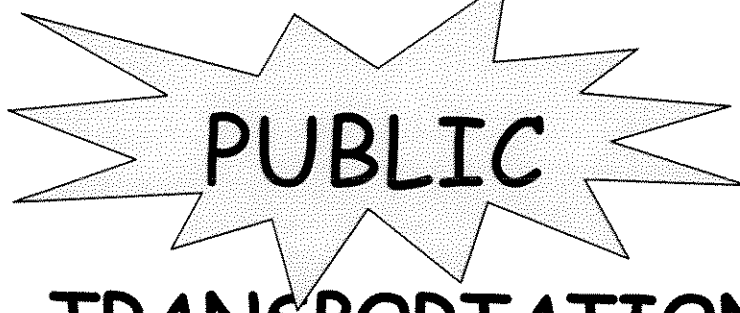


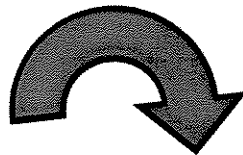
SCHOHARIE COUNTY



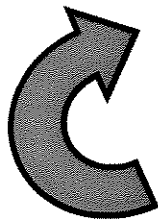
TRANSPORTATION

COORDINATION PLAN

**STEERING EVERYONE
TOGETHER**



**STEERING EVERYONE
TOGETHER**



**STEERING EVERYONE
TOGETHER**

Schoharie County Public Transportation
101 Rock Rd., Cobleskill, N.Y. 12043
(518) 234-0952

SCPT 8/08

www.schohariecountypublictransit.com

2008

SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

COORDINATED PLAN

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SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

COORDINATION PLAN

HISTORY

In the late 1960's and early 1970's a lot of players from various agencies and non-profits discussed the need for transportation.

The planning began with committees, meetings and a lot of interest.

The Office for the Aging became the lead agency to move the effort along. They with the Senior Council (non-profit) gathered all our "PLAYERS and resources sharing a combined interest.

A dream became a reality and the first bus (van) routes were implemented in Schoharie County on October 6, 1975. This service provided total county coverage for seniors and handicapped individuals for many, many years. Administration was provided by the OFA and Operation by the Senior Council. Two 12 passenger vans were replaced with 16-20 passenger buses and over the years larger buses were secured.

An Advisory Committee was formed early on with various personnel from agencies or groups these individuals looked at transportation as a top priority.

The Human Services Coordinating Council sponsored support from our County Government to move forward with a more comprehensive transportation system.

Our Board of Supervisors entered into an agreement with Marchand Consulting Firm to study and compile a Comprehensive Transportation Plan for Schoharie County. This was completed and approved by NYS DOT designating us as a RPTCAP County.

From that point to date we have coordinated with other providers. At this time we are doing a major update of the entire operation.

In February 1992 coordination was accomplished with the first bus service for Veterans to Albany VA Hospital this was unanimously approved by our County Government allowing Veterans and their spouse to ride at no cost to them.

Also in February 1992 coordination was accomplished with the Department of Social Services for Medicaid Transportation for medical and services trips.

Both of the above remain in place at the current time and are incorporated within the Public System

In 1995 our first public route was implemented from Richmondville > Cobleskill> Central Bridge via Rt. 7, 3 times a day, 6 days a week with 28 stops. By June 1998 our entire operation became PUBLIC with the Senior Council and ARC serving as operators.

Another major component of coordination was completed with Schoharie County assuming the operation of commuter routes formerly provided by a private bus company, K & K Bus Line in January 1998.

From 1998 – 2008 (current) our System has been open to the public serving and passengers of all ages.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COORDINATED PLAN

SCHOHARIE COUNTY OVERVIEW

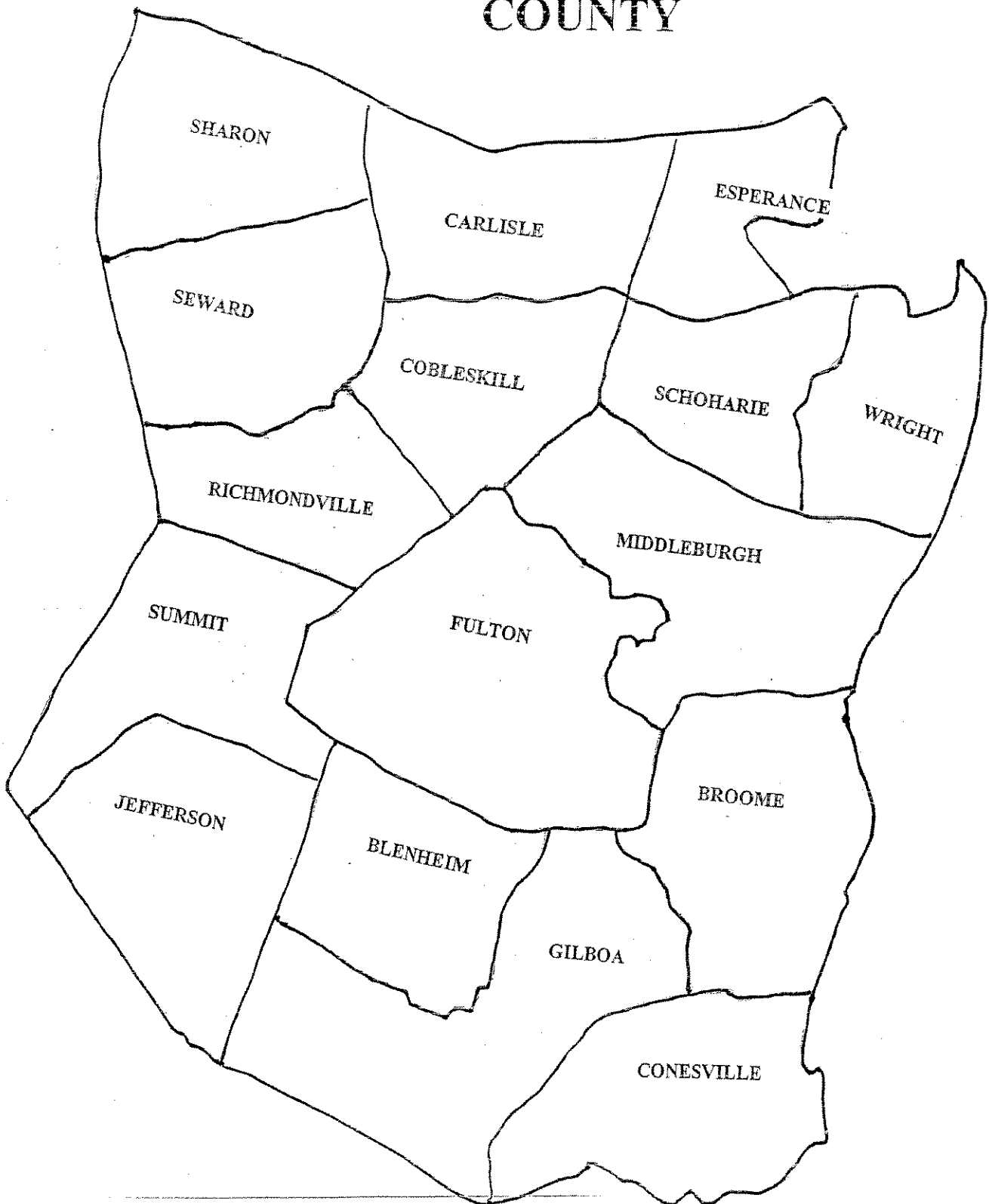
Schoharie County is located in the east-central part of New York State approximately 30 miles west of the City of Albany and 135 miles north of the City of New York. It occupies approximately 390,000 acres, or 610 square miles. The terrain is a mix of rounded mountainsides and flat narrow valleys. Elevations range from an average of about 1,200 feet in the northern limestone plateau section of the County to approximately 2,000 feet in the higher plateaus in the southern part of the County. Higher elevations exceeding 2,500 feet exist in sections of the Catskill Mountains that extend north into the County. The Schoharie Creek flows north from the Catskill Mountains through the County to the Mohawk River. The County is rural and surrounded by Albany, Delaware, Greene, Montgomery, Otsego and Schenectady Counties. Schoharie County is the least populated county in the region with 31,582 people (2000 Census).

Schoharie County is comprised of 16 towns and 6 villages. There are no cities in the County. The most populated area of the County (approximately 14,000 residents) is the northwest Towns of Carlisle, Cobleskill, Richmondville, Seward and Sharon where the Villages of Cobleskill, Richmondville and Sharon Springs are located.

HIGHWAYS

Major east-west transportation routes in the County include Interstate 88, US Route 20, NYS Route 7 and NYS Route 443. Canadian Pacific rail has freight service through Esperance, Cobleskill, Richmondville and Schoharie. No passenger rail services the County. Major north-south transportation routes include NYS Route 10, NYS Route 30, NYS Route 30A and NYS Route 145. All intersections are at-grade and several railroad crossings are also at-grade. According to NYS DOT average daily traffic counts, the busiest State Route in the County is NYS Route 7 through the Village of Cobleskill with an average of 16,248 vehicles per day. NYS Route 7 is the only east-west route in downtown Cobleskill. In comparison, I-88 (a four lane divided highway) has an average daily count of 10,000 – 11,000 vehicles. The busiest County Roads are Mineral Springs Road and Barnerville Road (in the Village of Cobleskill) with approximately 2,300 and 3,900 vehicles per day respectively. There are no commercial airports in the County. The County relies heavily on the services around the City of Albany and Schenectady for passenger rail and air services.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY



ADVISORY COMMITTEE

We have had a Transportation Advisory Committee in place for the past twenty years. The Committee is comprised of a representative from various providers and human service agencies and also a member of our Board of Supervisors. We meet the first Wednesday each month at 9:00a.m. to keep abreast of our current system, make recommendations for expansion and improvements and to avoid duplication.

From our parent Committee we have formed a sub Ad-Hoc Committee of six representatives to study and create an update to our current system.

See Appendix A – Roster

SYSTEM LOGO/SLOGAN/COLORS

Our logo has been our little “Puff Bus” which has been used since 1995 when the system started to go Public. This appears on the back of the entire bus fleet with the slogan — **“SERVING RIDERS OF ALL AGES”**. This also appears on all Route Schedules, Flyers, Announcements and “Give Away” such as fans, pens, calendars, notepads, clips etc. All of the above items are given to the present passengers as well as potential passengers, human service personnel and the general public. A heavy distribution of our “Give-Away” is done at the local County Fair in August. This enables us to reach a new group of people – to inform individuals of the system and generate some who may become our passengers.

Our fleet colors are the official County colors of green and white. Our new look is a wavy strip of two colors of green as opposed to a straight strip. This is definitely more eye catching.

On the newer buses this effect is on the top over the windows on both sides rather than on the sides of the buses. A major change was the word PUBLIC which was inserted in a large sunburst effect with a different type of lettering. This was changed on all buses in the spring of 2007. The response was overwhelming as the people really noticed the difference.

This was to overcome the misconception of people in general still thinking the buses are for senior citizens only. We continue to use this new look on all revised materials to promote our PUBLIC system.

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

NAME/AGENCYTELEPHONE
NUMBERFAX NUMBER**ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Ruth Ashworth Schoharie County Public Health Dept. P.O. Box 667 Schoharie, New York 12157	(518)295-8365	(518)295-8786
Robert Barr Veteran PO Box 221 Warnerville, New York 12187	(518)254-0784	(518)234-2046
Dick Bartholomew Schoharie County Public Transportation 24 East Main Street Richmondville, New York 12149	(518)294-8860	(518)234-2046
Ethel Benninger, Public Relations Specialist Schoharie County Public Transportation 136 Tater Barn Road Central Bridge, New York 12035	(518)868-9933-# 234-0952-0	(518)234-2046
Paul Brady, Commissioner/ Ruey Schell, Secretary to the Commissioner Schoharie Co. Dept. of Social Services PO Box 687 Schoharie, New York 12157	(518)295-8310	(518)295-8499
Carol Coltrain Schoharie County Office for the Aging 113 Park Place, Suite 3 Schoharie, New York 12157	(518)295-2001	(518)295-2015
Ben Cooper Schoharie County Dept. of Public Works P.O. Box 249 Schoharie, New York 12157	(518)295-7102	(518)295-7842
Pat Cooper, Director Schoharie County Public Transportation 114 Rock Road Cobleskill, New York 12043	(518)234-0952	(518)234-2046
Nancy Dingee Schoharie Co. Community Action Program 795 East Main Street, Suite 5 Cobleskill, New York 12043	(518)234-2568	(518)234-3507
William Karlau Senior Council 222 Frisbieville Lane Schoharie, New York 12157	(518)295-7781	
Art Rumph Schoharie Co. Chapter Adult Rehabilitation Center PO Box 307 Schoharie, New York 12157	(518)295-8120	(518)295-8969

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<u>NAME/AGENCY</u>	<u>TELEPHONE NUMBER</u>	<u>FAX NUMBER</u>
--------------------	-----------------------------	-------------------

Alicia Terry, Director Schoharie Co. Planning & Dev. Agency 349 Mineral Springs Road Cobleskill, New York 12043	(518)234-3751	(518)23403951
Earl VanWormer Schoharie Co. Board of Supervisors County Office Building Schoharie, New York 12157	(518)868-9304 home (518)295-8347	(518)295-8482
Doris Wood Consumer Rep./Senior Council Rep. 2677 State Route 145 Middleburgh, New York 12122	(518)827-4177	

NON-ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS INTERESTED IN RECEIVING MEETING MINUTES ONLY

Charles Beers Veterans Service Agency Box 589, Room 306 County Office Building Schoharie, New York 12157	(518)295-8360	(518)295-8482
Joanne Gleba Cobleskill Regional Hospital – Administration 178 Grandview Drive Cobleskill, New York 12043	(518)254-3334	
Kevin Kutzcher Schoharie County Head Start 114 Lark Street Cobleskill, New York 12043	(518)234-7521	(518)23404320
Willard McDonnell, (Veteran) 136-1 Walhalla Road Middleburgh, New York 12122	(518)827-4053	HONORARY MEMBER
Bill McCabe Coxsackie Transport, Inc. 296 Main Street Middleburgh, New York 12122	(518)827-8100	(518)827-8195
Jeffrey Foote Student Life Center State University Agricultural and Technical College at Cobleskill, Bouck Hall Cobleskill, New York 12043	e-mail: footeje@cobleskill.edu 255-5300	
Jodi Rutt Executive Director Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce 113 Park Place, Suite 2 Schoharie, New York 12157	(518)295-6550	(518)295-7453

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

NAME/AGENCY TELEPHONE
NUMBER FAX NUMBER

RESOURCE CONTACTS		
Stephanie Mielnik, Program Manager NYS Department of Transportation Section 5311 program 50 Wolf Road, POD 54 Albany, New York 12232	(518)457-8335	(518)485-7563 smielnik@dot.state.ny.us
Bill Telovsky, Intercity Bus Program Drug and Alcohol Program, GIS Coord. NYS Department of Transportation Section 5311 Program 50 Wolf Road, POD 54 Albany, New York 12232	(518)457-8335	(518)485-7563 wtelovsky@dot.state.ny.us
Mike LaBello, Schoharie County Rep. NYS Department of Transportation Section 5311 Program 50 Wolf Road, POD 54 Albany, New York 12232	(518)457-8335	(518)485-7563 mlabello@dot.state.ny.us

NEW SCHEDULES

Our routes were monitored several times in 2006 with input from drivers, passengers, advisory committee and other concerned individuals from this changes were made by eliminating one route and enhancing some with better timing and more stops. After this process, NYS DOT assisted in designing nine new route schedules. These revised schedules are extremely user friendly, with numbered stops to coincide with the numbered maps, clearer lettering and bright color. This was a major improvement to enhance passenger participation.

Our new look also includes paid advertisements on all schedules to help defray the cost of the printing. Our new schedules were printed and distributed to one hundred locations throughout the County. The old schedule holders were repainted a bright yellow and several new holders were ordered. Locations are now more uniform and placed in similar locations such as: Post Offices, Health Facilities, Major Agencies, Town/Village Offices and in remote areas, Grocery Stores, Housing Units, Banks and the SUNY Campus.

Schedule Locations attached.

FLYERS / POSTERS

A wide variety of printed information has been dropped on bus seats and left at high traffic locations. This is also distributed to groups when a presentation is given to inform them of our new improved system. Keep in mind our logo "Puff Bus" and sunburst around the word PUBLIC is on all printed materials.

WEBSITE – www.schohariecountypublictransit.com

Our other major accomplishment was the permission of our County Board of Supervisors to allow Public Transportation to have NYS DOT assist with the creation of a website exclusively for SCPT.

Prior to this, all information pertaining to Public Transportation was on the County website. The general public would not necessarily think of a bus system being listed under County government.

We are extremely thankful for all the support that NYS DOT and the Schoharie County Board of Supervisors have provided to our Transportation System.

Website results Comparison Chart reflecting number of inquiries for County Website and SCPT web attached.

BUS STOP SIGNS

We maintain an excellent working relationship with our County Department of Public Works. The Department of Public Works have assisted us by installing metal Bus Stop Signs at major bus stops – Large stores, County Buildings and locations frequented several times a day. They have repainted our County shaped sign on our facility as well as updating our location sign by the road entrance. The Fleet Coordinator of DPW serves on our Advisory Committee. In this capacity he provides excellent input to our overall system. Presently serving on a special committee to study cost saving measures.

TRANSPORTATION GUIDES

Our appreciation to NYS DOT for the development of a Transit Guide (8 ½ “ page folded) which is available to agency and other personnel to be used as a desk reference. We provided the data and pictures while NYS DOT did the layout. The guide covers all of the route schedules, pictures, pertinent data and information regarding the system.

A thank you to Schoharie County Council of Senior Citizens, Inc. for their generous donation this helped defray the printing costs.

INFORMATION NOTEBOOKS

We have compiled a notebook of all pertinent data – schedules, times at high usage locations, how the routes operate and much more. A notebook is on each bus for all passengers to look at and read while traveling along.

We felt this was another beneficial way to inform our passengers.

PROMOTION ADVERTISEMENT

Another highlight in 2007 was advertising on the buses. We have contacted with Lang Media to work with potential advertisers, help design their messages and install wraps on the buses. This not only provides additional revenue toward our budget but also helps promote local businesses. All of this makes us a true player in our service area.

Advertising Information attached.

EMPLOYEE APPEARANCE

A major accomplishment to improve our image was we now provide uniforms for all drivers and other personnel. This is an image the public sees. It gives the system a true professional appearance. Uniforms are navy pants with a light blue shirt and a vest or jacket.

INVENTORY OF TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS

We have obtained data and compiled a complete inventory of all of our providers.

Attached is a compiled document covering the following categories.

- Company Name
- Telephone Number
- Website / E-mail
- Contact Person
- Number of Vehicles
- Capacity / Wheelchair Equipped
- DOT Inspected
- Service Area, Days & Time
- Type of System
- Passenger Record – 2007
- Miles Traveled – 2007
- Funding Sources
- Total Operational Cost – 2007

GAPS IN THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (12/07)

Another survey was prepared and distributed to all providers, Human Service Agencies, Workforce Related Agencies and medical Providers to determine “GAPS” in the transportation systems. The responses were very slow in number returned. However we continue to bring this issue up at our monthly Human Service Coordinating Council and other meetings. We have had meetings with other agencies to discuss GAPS and possible means to address them. A work in progress.

See respective agency coordination.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS

PROVIDER

October 2007 Survey

VEHICLES

COMPANY NAME	TEL. NO.	WEB/ E-Mail	CONTACT	NO. VEH.	CAPACITY	W/CHAIR	DOT INSP.
Schoharie Co. Public Trans. 114 Rock Road Cobleskill, NY 12043	518 234-0952	www.schohariecountypublictransit.com lindacunningham@co.schoharie.ny.us	Ethel Benninger	12	43-8	Yes All	Yes
Adirondack Trailways 499 Hurley St. Hurley, NY 12443	1 800 858-8555	www.trailwaysny.com	Debbie Hamlin Cut Above Salon (Local)	110	43-52	80%	Yes
Coxsackie Transport, Inc. P.O. Box 1108 135 Scribner Ave. Middleburgh, NY 12122	518 827-8100	cox@sackie2004@yahoo.com	Bill Anset-McCabe	9	3-7	Available	Yes
Schoharie County Dept. of Social Ser. P.O. Box 687 Schoharie, NY 12157	518 295-8334		Paul Brady Commissioner	19	3-6	No	No
Circle of Life P.O. Box 100 So. Kortright, NY 13842	607 538-1734		Patricia Dengler	9	2-3	Yes	No
Schoharie County Office for the Aging 113 Park Place, Suite 3 Schoharie, NY 12157	518 295-2001	ofa@co.schoharie.ny.us	Carol Meka	13 Also Volunteer Vehicles	5 & Up	No	No
Schoharie County Chapter ARC Rt. 30 Schoharie, NY 12157	518 295-8111 518 295-8130		Art Rumph	14	Varies	Yes	No
Schoharie County Head Start aka Schoharie County Child Development Council, Inc. 114 Lark Street Cobleskill, NY 12043	518 234-7521	headstart@telenet.net	Judy McLaughlin Lisa Boss	7 Buses 10 Cars		No	Yes Buses Only
Coby Taxi 111 Barnerville Road Cobleskill, NY 12043	518 231-8294		Clyde Miers	4 Cars		No	No

SCHOHARIE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS

SERVICES		FUNDING				October 2007 Survey	
AREA	DAYS	TIME	TYPE	PASS.	NO. MILES	2006	TOTAL COST
Schoharie Co. All Schenectady & Albany Counties (Tri-City)	M-F 6 Rts. M-S 3 Rts.	Depends on Route Schedule 5:30a.m. - 10:00p.m.	Fixed, Commuter & Demand Response Routes	70,084	393,243	Fares, STOA \$908,867 Fed. Sec. 5311 Co. Govt Bus Ad	
NYS, Montreal, Toronto Connections to all points in US and Canada	Daily	12:01p.m. Schd/Albany E & N 12:05p.m. Oneonta/Binghamton W & S	Fixed Rt.	Not provided for just local service			
Schoharie, Greene, Delaware & Albany Counties	Mon.-Sat.	Available 24/7	Pick up at Home to Destination	25 Per Day x 250 Days	Varies	Co. Govt Private Fares	
Primarily Schoharie County	Mon.-Fri.	9:00a.m.-5:00p.m.	Limited to DSS Clients	N/A	N/A	State Federal Local	
Schoharie, Delaware Otsego, Herkimer Counties	Mon-Fri Sat. Appt ONLY	7:00a.m.-7:00p.m.	W/Chair Stretcher	3,097	386,285	Private Pay Medicaid	
Schoharie, Otsego Schtdy, Albany Prim Sometimes other Counties	Mon.-Fri Sat. Sometimes	Varies	Vol. Own veh. for Dr. Appt. Hosp & Nursing Homes		6,169	OFA Budget \$2,745.15 Grant Money	
Schoharie Co. Western Schtdy. Co., Northern Greene & Delaware Co.	Mon.-Fri.	6:00a.m.-5:00p.m.	Door to Door	162 x 2x day x 250 81,000	260,572	Fed. Sec. 5310 Day Hab Rates Res. Hab Fund CMRDD	\$980,000
Schoharie County	Mon.-Fri	7:00a.m.-5:00p.m.	Door to Door Pre-School children & Families	90+ Pre-School	50,000	Fed. Head Start Grant	
Anywhere	Mon.-Sun.	6:00a.m.-2:00a.m.	Public	7 Pass Van			

SCHOHARIE COUNTY GAPS IN TRANSPORTATION

December 2007 Survey

RESPONDER NAME	CONTACT PERSON	TEL. NO.	DETERMINED GAPS
Schoharie Co. Youth Bureau	Sara Robertson	234-2686	Moving young people from outlying areas to major Towns, Villages and the Capital District
Schoharie Co. Council of Alcohol and Substance Abuse	Norine Hodges	234-8705	Serve six (6) School Districts - not sure of GAPS
Catholic Charities	Diane Szabo	234-3581	Cobleskill to Schoharie - Good Problem - Schoharie back to Cobleskill is a problem in time for kids getting off school bus
Schoharie Co. ARC	Art Rumph Peggy Himes	295-8111	Dispatcher on duty when buses are running; good communication system. Rotation/hourly routes
Schoharie County Health Dept.	Ruth Ashworth	295-8474	Resistance to change most clients have never used the system
Schoharie County OFA	R. Carol Coltrain	295-2015	Times of bus schedule pick-up and departure to coincide with the County work hours 8:00-4:00-9:00-5:00 Coordinate with surrounding Counties for Medical Services Assurance that passengers are picked up at bus stops People going to Tri-Cities for appointments

Schoharie County Public Transportation Route Schedule Holders 2008

Locations	Ble	Bro	Car	Cob	Con	Esp	Ful	Gil	Jef	Mid	Rich	Sch	Sew	Sha	Sum	Wri	Holders	Loc.
AGENCIES																		
ARC												2/08					1	1
Access Center				4/08													1	1
Catholic Charities				4/08													1	1
Chamber Com'rce												1/08					1	1
Co'pertive Ext.				4/08													1	1
City Annex (3)	MHC, CDC, &		Cs Mg									2/08					3	1
City Office Bldg (3)	Lobby & DSS & Mental Health											4/08					3	1
OFA												4/08					1	1
Plan'd Par'hood				2/08													1	1
Public Safety Bldg.												4/08					1	1
SCCAP				4/08													1	1
Workforce Sol.				4/08													1	1
BANKS																		
First Tea. Cr. Un.				4/08													1	1
Key Bank				4/08													1	1
NBT Bank				4/08								4/08					3	3
Richmondville				4/08										3/08			1	1
Trustco																		
Wilber Bank				4/08													1	1
COLLEGE (16)				2/08													16	16
See below																		
HEATH FACILITIES																		
Bassett H'care				1/08													3	3
Bas'tt Hospital (2)	Lobbies			4/08										3/08			2	1
Family Med Care				2/08													1	1
Weitz, MD										2/08							1	1
Pro-Active P. T.				4/08													1	1
Maranath				5/08													1	1
OTHER																		
Alley Cat																		
* Cut Above				4/08								2/08					1	1
* Greyhound Sta.																	1	1
Laundry Basket				4/08													1	1
Sharon Laundry														3/08			1	1
PUBLIC TRANS (1)	Office			4/08													1	1

SUNY locations: 10 Residence Halls; Prentice & Champlin Dining Halls; Bouck Hall Students Activities Office, Career & Dev. Center, Student Life Center, Wellness Center
xls.lc

Schoharie County Public Transportation Route Schedule Holders 2008

Locations	Ble	Bro	Car	Cob	Con	Esp	Ful	Gil	Jef	Mid	Rich	Sch	Sew	Sha	Sum	Wri	Holders	Loc.
HOUSING																		
Cliffside Apts.										2/08		2/08					1	1
Driftwood Apts																	1	1
Early Woodland				2/08													1	1
Grandview Apts				5/08													1	1
Hammerstone				4/08													1	1
Parsonage Pine												2/08					1	1
R'view Apts											4/08						1	1
Spring Meadows														3/08			1	1
Stoneview Apts				5/08													1	1
LIBRARIES (4)				4/08						5/08		2/08		3/08			4	4
POST OFFICE (19)	2/08	n/a	1/08	4/08	n/a	1/08	below	2/08	4/08	5/08	4/08	2/08	n/a	3/08	4/08	below	11	11
Central Bridge												2/08					1	1
Charlotteville							2/08								4/08		1	1
Fultonham																1/08	1	1
Gallupville												1/08					1	1
Howes Cave						1/08											1	1
Sloansville																	1	1
Warnerville											4/08						1	1
West Fulton							2/08										1	1
SCHOOLS (8)			Golding	3/07				2/08	4/08	2/08	4/08	9/07		3/08			8	8
			H. S.	5/08						Radez				guides				
STORES																		
Breakabean Gen.	2/08																	#5
Charlotteville								2/08							4/08		1	#5
Clark's Gen/Rest																	1	1
Rite Aid (Eck'lds)				6/08													1	1
E'thing Shoppe				5/08					4/08	5/08							2	2
E&P Corner Str.																	1	1
Grand Union										2/08							1	1
Manorkill Store					1/08												1	1
Price Chopper				7/08													1	1
Reinhardt Mini											4/08						1	1
Stewarts (4)				6/08		2/08				2/08		2/08					4	4
Summit Gen'ral																	1	#5
Wal*Mart				7/08										4/08			1	1
TOWN OFFICES (5)		3/07		6/08	2/08				4/08				5/07	guides	4/08		6	7
VILLAGE OFFICES				9/07						2/08							2	2
Total area locations	2	1	1	51	2	3	2	3	4	9	5	17	1	8	4	1	114	111

SCHOHARIE COUNTY

PUBLIC

TRANSPORTATION

Advertising on the

"move"

Want to promote your business, agency, event, whatever?

Consider letting us take your Advertisement for a Ride

That's right. Schoharie County

Public

Transportation

has 9 Bus Routes operating countywide and in the Tri-City areas. You decide what your message says. Let us know.

We refer you to Lang Media @ 782-0852 (Mike Lang).

They contract with you, do your print from your design and install on the buses. You can get a side sign or tail wrap (back of bus).

We generate some revenue. You get your message out on your Business.

Consider riding with us. Visit our website for schedules.

www.schohariecountypublictransit.com



COORDINATION

**SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION**

AND

**SCHOHARIE COUNTY
CHAPTER
ARC**

COORDINATION

SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHAPTER OF ARC

The ARC and SCPT currently coordinate between several of our routes. Coordination between ARC and SCPT was started when our current Public system was implemented. Both operators did Public routes for several years working in harmony with one another. For the past few years SCPT has done all of the Public routes after ARC chose not to be a Public operator. However, coordination continued with ARC passengers being provided service by our system in areas where it proved feasible. Rather than both bus systems traveling down the same road behind each other.

Therefore certain passengers and areas were assigned to our system and worked out very successful. We both need to constantly work on this with additions and / or deletions as deem necessary. Another highlight is the transportation supervisor from ARC serves on both the Advisory Committee and Ad Hoc Committee for Planning and Coordination.

Coordination

Schoharie County Public Transportation
And
ARC
June 16, 2008

Present: Pat Cooper, SCPT, Ethel Benninger, SCPT, Linda Cunningham, SCPT, Linda Isles, ARC and Amy Pricolo-Brown, ARC Employment Staff.

Background: Linda Isles indicated there are 80 clients on a work list. They (ARC) help these clients find employment, learn the job and maintain the job. The clients have a wide range of abilities. Clients live in Huntersland, Jefferson and Summit. The jobs are at the ARC Campus between Schoharie and Middleburgh as well as Middleburgh, Schoharie and Cobleskill. The hours vary times are between 6:00a.m. – 12:00a.m. Sixty clients work in Toe Path Industries located at The Campus.

A topic of discussion was the New Freedom Program funded through NYSDOT. The program is intended to fund innovative and flexible programs and projects, which identify and address the transportation needs of individuals with limited incomes and persons with disabilities.

Since the deadline for submitting grant applications is this Friday, June 20, 2008 it was suggested they (ARC) contact Tom Vaughan, NYSDOT to determine if they would qualify for the New Freedom Program. If they do qualify they need to get a Letter of Support from the Human Services Coordinating Council. The HSCC meets once a month and the next meeting is on June 18, 2008.

Linda Isles called this afternoon with a follow-up. She had a lengthy conversation with Tom Vaughan, NYSDOT. He advised her there were public resources available in Schoharie County through both the Federal Section 5310 and the Federal Section 5311 Programs. He also inquired if this need was identified in the Schoharie County Coordinated Plan and if not it needs to be addressed and action should be taken. Tom also explained the New Freedom Program is on a two (2) year cycle, this being the second year of this cycle. The groundwork can be done for the future and perhaps it will fit in the next cycle.

Linda and I discussed the Transportation Survey and the GAPS Survey we have completed. Since SCPT was not aware of her transportation needs and she was not aware of our surveys I sent a copy to her via the bus on June 17th.

We will continue to work together and coordinate whenever possible.

Some needs of ARC are extremely difficult to address within a Public System. The needs just do not fit into our route schedules.

Their customers come from various parts of the County and need to go to work at various locations.

COORDINATION

**SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUYBLIC
TRANSPORTATION**

AND

**SCHOHARIE COUNTY
MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Coordination

**Schoharie County Public Transportation
Schoharie County Mental Health
June 11, 2008**

Present: Julie Tracy, MH Program Analyst, Patricia Cooper, SCPT, Ethel Benninger, SCPT and Linda Cunningham, SCPT

Pat had to leave due to an accident involving one of our vehicles.

Linda and I continued to meet with Julie and discussed the following:

We suggested Julie contact Carol Meka from OFA regarding their contact list of volunteers. Maybe they would be interested in providing transportation for MH and they reimburse them for mileage. Also volunteers might be interested in serving as an aide to assist clients in familiarizing them and help them feel comfortable in using a bus system.

We all need to work together. I will be setting up a meeting with our local providers as well as agency personnel who can reflect on gaps etc.

RSS has a van and this vehicle needs to be added to the County Inventory.

Mental Health holding a meeting June 30, 2008 5:30p.m.-7:30p.m. on the third floor of the County Office Building in Schoharie. Someone from SCPT will attend. I can't personally make that date (son visiting).

I will take display board down and set it up so they can check the information out prior to 5:30p.m.

A transportation survey was completed by MH sixty-two people were surveyed from ICM/SCM, MH, RSS. See attached results. Something we can work with to encourage bus usage.

Making clients feel more relaxed and perhaps changing clinic appointment times to coordinate with the bus route schedules.

UPDATE

Linda Cunningham attended the meeting mentioned above. It was very informative and also provided an opportunity to meet staff and clients.

Mental Health called to inform us they are making client appointments to coincide with the bus schedules. This is a very good start of coordination between agencies.

Transportation Survey 2008

n=62 from ICM/SCM, MH, RSS

95% live on a bus route

50% have faced obstacles in using available transportation

81% have Medicaid

54% of those identify obstacles in using available transportation

66% have further transportation needs

12% of those are regularly scheduled

54% of those are both scheduled and unscheduled

76% of those have Medicaid

31% ICM/SCM

84% of those have further transportation needs

31% no further transportation needs

45% live in Cobleskill

24% live in Schoharie

OBSTACLES

21% run times and unreliability

11% money for gas or bus

8% fails to set up ride

where else?

to work, stores, PO, social events, medical, out of county

COORDINATION

**SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION**

AND

**SCHOHARIE COUNTY OFFICE
FOR THE AGING**

OFFICE FOR THE AGING

Currently our local OFA has minor funding to provide a stipend to volunteer drivers using their own vehicles to do transports.

This is to be a service to fill gaps that can not be fulfilled by other providers.

We support the concept of meeting unmet needs. However, we feel all transportation data should filter through the proper agency so designated as such SCPT.

Due to confidentiality names of passengers can not be shared among agencies. The hard data such as the number of trips, number of passengers, from/to destinations, cost factors, amount spent yearly and criteria for service should be shared.

The design of today's service delivery is a "one stop" for any / all specific services. This avoids duplication, effective referrals and the best way to effectively meet the needs and fill the gaps without complicating the purpose and the clients. The OFA has had a representative on our Advisory committee so this is a positive step.

Also the OFA Transportation coordinator serves on the Ad Hoc Committee, therefore more planning will be addressed as more meetings are held. There is a definite need to start more productive referrals between agencies.

Further coordination promotes efficiency and avoids duplication.

COORDINATION

**SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION**

AND

**SCHOHARIE COUNTY COUNCIL
OF
SENIOR CITIZENS**

**Coordination
Schoharie County Public Transportation
And
Schoharie County Council of Senior Citizens**

The Schoharie County Council of Senior Citizens Inc. was a major component behind the implementation of transportation in Schoharie County (Oct. 5, 1975). They have served as the Operator since the beginning. They have owned buses, provided matching funds for numerous years as well as purchasing some vehicles with private monies.

The Senior Council also serves as the employer for the transportation staff, drivers and support.

For all of the above reasons they are to be commended for their endless support over the years. However, some thirty-three years later the system has gone from Senior to a Public System and many things have changed. Now that we are a Public System the name "Senior Council Operator" on the sides of all the buses gives the impression they are still only for Seniors.

To correct this, the County owns the buses and pays the insurance it would be a positive step to have the operator as County Government. This would send the message we are truly a Public System serving passengers of all ages.

More discussion needs to flow through the Oversight Committee for total County support.

COORDINATION

**SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION**

AND

**SCHOHARIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT
OF
SOCIAL SERVICES
MEDICAID TRANSPORTATION**

MEDICAID TRANSPORTATION

On May 1, 1992 the Department of Social Services turned all Medicaid transportation over to the Office for the Aging and Senior Council. The Senior Council was the operator for transportation with OFA via a contract. The Senior Council's Operating Authority was amended allowing them to become an approved Medicaid Certified Operator. This enables transports within and out of the County. The OFA provided administration of the entire system until March 2001 when the Board of Supervisors created the Schoharie County Public Transportation Department, which now serves as the Administrator.

The entire Medicaid unit is very complex and needs to be streamlined to be more effective and cost efficient. The present system entails SCPT providing administration, the Department of Social Services provides County cars and the Senior Council provides the drivers and serves as the operator.

During the past few months, we have had discussions with the Department of Social Services. We are checking into becoming the broker, which would give us more authority enabling a more effective operation. Our local DSS approves this approach. Therefore, we have visited other providers for their expertise to benefit us in our planning and coordination. Both DSS and SCPT's main objective is to get the majority of the MA clients using Public buses. Through this type of coordination an increase in our passengers, would be cost effective for DSS and enable SCPT to have more control of the program. Presently there are too many players involved, which causes confusion and duplication.

All aspects of the system are done manually at this time. This is very time consuming and not a productive use of personnel and time. We are in the process of looking into an existing program to upgrade the system.

A major component would be to computerize the system reflecting passengers, drivers, vehicles and trips according to specific areas, times, etc.

I have personally visited our six school districts and secured updated data on each.

I have developed guidelines for our Medicaid Drivers to follow when picking up or returning students school passengers will be transported by Public buses when at all possible, cars are the second alternative.

MEDICAID PROCEDURES
FOR
SCHOHAIRE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS
JUNE 2008

Schoharie County has six (6) school districts located in Cobleskill-Richmondville, Gilboa-Conesville, Jefferson, Middleburgh, Schoharie and Sharon Springs.

Some are single one building schools housing K-12 while other are multi-school building complexes with specific grades in each.

Drivers should familiarize themselves with the schools, personnel you will work with and the locations of the school. See attached list of schools, telephone numbers, and directions as to where you report when picking up or returning students.

When transporting school students during school days **you must follow these guidelines:**

- Go to the school your transportation order indicates;
- Go to the school location on the order;
- Show the school personnel your identification as a certified driver for SCPT;
- Show the school personnel your transportation order for the student(s);
- If for any reason you are at a school during dismissal time, (AM/PM) you cannot move the car near the bus line up;
- Follow your transportation order as to destination you are taking student either for medical or service trip;
- Be friendly – Hello, general conversation, etc. **NO personal conversation between you and the students(s) you are transporting;**
- Follow transportation order to return student to their school, home or other destination.
- Follow all other Rules & Regulations pertaining to the Medicaid Unit.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY CENTRAL SCHOOLS

MEDICAID PICKUP LOCATIONS

COBLESKILL-RICHMONDVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL

518 234-3565/ Lynn Macan, Superintendent
1353 State Route 7
P.O. Box 490
Richmondville, NY 12149

RADEZ ELEMENTARY – Grade K-5

518 294-6621
Main Street, (State Rte. 7)
Richmondville, NY 12149

Radez Elementary School go to the side entrance and come to the Main Office across lobby, see Wendi Philbrick to release student (they will call Radez 294-6621).

RYDER ELEMENTARY – Grade 3 - 5

518 234-2585
Cobleskill Village
Park in circle, go to Main Office, see Joanne Salerno to release student (Ryder Main Office 234-2585)

GOLDING ELEMENTARY – Grade 3 – 5

518 234-2585
Cobleskill Village
School year September 2008 Ryder & Golding will be more combined with one Main Office in the middle.

GOLDING MIDDLE – Grade 6 – 8

518 234-8368 Ext. 2020
Cobleskill Village
Pick up at Guidance Office across from Main Office

CRCS Continued

Ryder Elementary, Golding Elementary and Golding Middle – Elm Street (Rt. 10) to Golding Drive. Follow the road to Ryder & Golding Middle Schools, first combined main Office in the Middle Front of complex. Park in circle if **NOT** bus line up time. Golding Middle go to large older building at end of road.

HIGH SCHOOL – Grade 9 - 12

518 234-3565

Rt. 7 (Between Warnerville & Richmondville)

Driver should report to the Attendance Office. Enter at flagpole entrance in front of school, go past Main Office on right, Nurse's Office, around corner to Attendance Office on right.

Student must have a note from home stating that they have an appointment.

GILBOA-CONESVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL K – Grade 12

1-607-588-7541 / AnneMarie Spadatora, Superintendent

132 Wycoff Road, Gilboa, NY 12076

Rt. 30 south from Middleburgh, NY turn left on Rt. 990V, go past Gilboa Dam the school is on the left first driveway. Park on entrance way on right, main office as you walk from vehicle. You need to show student transport request to the school nurse Helen Timm, 1 607 588-7620 for clearance. School needs parent approval on file.

JEFFERSON CENTRAL SCHOOL K – Grade 12

1-607-652-7821 / Carl Mummentley, Superintendent

1332 State Rte. 10

Jefferson, NY 12093

Main Street (Rt. 10), Jefferson, NY enter door on side from parking lot, office staff person Donna, straight ahead on first floor.

MIDDLEBURGH CENTRAL SCHOOL – Grade 9 -12

518 827-3600 / Michele Weaver, Superintendent

P.O. Box 400

Middleburgh, NY 12122

MIDDLE / HIGH SCHOOL – Grade 6-8

518 827-3600

Main Street (Across from Stewart's)

Enter through main door speak to person at desk. Students required to have a permission slip from guardian.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL K – Grade 5

518 827-3600

Upper Main Street

Enter through the Main Office speak with the person at desk. Sign student out. We need either a phone call or a note from the parent/guardian.

SCHOHARIE CENTRAL SCHOOL

518-295-6600 / Brian Sherman, Supt.

P.O. Box 430, Academy Drive, Schoharie, NY 12157

Main Street, Schoharie, NY for both Elementary and High School. Turn up Prospect Street, off main to first school driveway on left Academy Drive.

ELEMENTARY – Grade K – 6

518 295-8128

Front entrance by school sign, office just inside on right. Secretary Rose Wilber

HIGH SCHOOL – Grade 7 - 12

518 255-8188

Main Entrance (glass) in back of school from parking lot, straight ahead office on the left Secretary Debi Cardella. Must have parental permission slip.

SHARON SPRINGS CENTRAL SCHOOL – Grade K - 12

518 284-2266 / Patterson Green, Supt.

P.O. Box 218, Sharon Springs, NY 13459

Rt. 20, Great Western Turnpike, Sharon Springs, NY right side of school to visitor's parking lot, go in door and staff desk will be inside for student clearance. Stacey Alexander-Mann CSE Chr.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

MEDICAID UNIT

DRIVERS

Medicaid Unit of SCPT is located upstairs at the Transportation Facility. This is now the assigned area for the MA Manager/Scheduler and MA Drivers. The MA Scheduler prepares trip sheets and assigns client transports to respective drivers. Weekly spreadsheet of scheduled trips is located on the MA Schedulers desk with a copy at the dispatcher's station downstairs.

Trip sheets are put in individual driver folders according to day/date Monday – Friday.

Drivers check the weekly summary sheet to check what day(s) of the week they are assigned to work.

Driver reports to work, gets keys, prepare assigned vehicle via DVIR Form for vehicle safety. They then go upstairs and get their assigned trips for the day. After the day's assignment the trip sheets are returned to the driver's completed folder. Daily entries are listed on weekly summary recording data on the daily transports. Example: trip completed, one-way, round-trip, medical, services and other required information.

NOTE: Check clipboard in downstairs lobby (in front of Janet's station) for messages only.

SCHEDULER

Upon arrival to work obtain copy of weekly summary assignments (downstairs) to compare cancellations and necessary new transportation orders.

Dispatcher will take copy back downstairs after lunch break.

DISPATCHER

Between the hours of 7:00a.m. – 11:00a.m. the dispatcher needs to check the Medicaid Driver Daily Hours Sheet before changing any assignments and/or cancellations. Tom is full-time driving and office assistant. Juanita is full-time and all others are part-time 29 hours per week or less.

Form upstairs at scheduler's work station.

Coordination
Schoharie County Public Transportation
and
Schoharie County Department of Social Services

July 29, 2008
2:00P.M.

Present: Dawn Klopman, SCPT, Ethel Benninger, SCPT, Nancy Wolfe, DSS Medical Transportation Supervisor and Julie Sammons, DSS Services Transportation Supervisor

Above staff met regarding a more effective flow of communication and referrals for medical and services transportation for eligible Medicaid passengers.

Dawn's contact staff at DSS will be Nancy and Julie respectively. They in turn, will inform DSS Personnel that all requests must be at SCPT by 9:00a.m. on Wednesday for the following Monday – Saturday work week schedule.

The only exception to the above is an emergency transport (not requiring an ambulance) that either Nancy or Julie will refer and Dawn will try to work in the schedule if at all possible.

Dawn discussed numerous passenger concerns and no shows for appointments with Nancy and Julie that lead to the importance of specifics being discussed and the need to have this type of information in writing. Dawn will now fax all Issues & Concerns to Nancy every Monday, completely filled in by the MA/Bus Driver and SCPT Supervisor. DSS will complete their section and return a copy to SCPT so both Departments have a written record. It was highly suggested MA Unit start a file on passengers so accurate data is always available.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED

Legal size locked file cabinet and partitions for privacy.

We all felt the meeting was successful for a more effective working relationship. Nancy took us on a tour of DSS and Dawn had the opportunity to meet with DSS Personnel she has previously only talked with. We also met with Commissioner Brady and had a good conversation. He mentioned to Dawn to be strong and is very supportive of all passengers on the buses. Good outlook for the new Cooperstown Route.

DATE / TIME _____

CLIENT _____

ISSUES/CONCERNS _____

DRIVER'S SIGNATURE _____

ACTION TAKEN _____

DATE/TIME REC. _____

PUBLIC TRANS. SIGNATURE _____

RESPONSE _____

DATE/TIME _____

DSS SIGNATURE _____

COORDINATION

**SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION**

AND

VETERANS



SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
114 ROCK ROAD, COBLESKILL, NY 12043

Patricia A. Cooper, Director

(518) 234-0952

Linda J. Cunningham, Sr. Transportation Clerk

FAX (518) 234-2046

Janet M. Gaige, Dispatcher

www.schohariecountypublictransit.com

TO: Veterans Directors/Delaware, Greene, Montgomery, Otsego and Schoharie Counties

DATE: July 7, 2008

FROM: Ethel Benninger, Public Relations Specialist
Schoharie County Public Transportation

REF: As you know I have talked to all of you from the above mentioned Counties.

All Counties involved with NYS DOT are in the process of compiling a Coordinated Plan for transportation.

It is believed by all that this should enable us to hopefully cut some costs and make our systems more effective.

I have enclosed copies of my discussions with each of you and some other data which I hope will be worthwhile to you.

My next question is Would you be interested in getting together with each other? If so, please let me know and I will try to set a meeting late August or early September.

Thanks for all your input and getting to know you.

I can be reached as follows: Telephone No. 518 234-0952, FAX No. 518 234-2046 or by Pat's e-mail patcooper@co.schoharie.ny.us

Serving Passengers of All Ages

VETERANS TRANSPORTATION
COORDINATION
BORDERING COUNTIES
MAY 1, 2008

COORDINATION

Meet with our counter-parts from bordering counties to determine what transportation modes are provided to their veterans.

Get to know each other and how we possibly can assist with available seating on vehicles going to the VA Administration Hospital in Albany and also to outside medical clinics.

By sharing with each other there could be a cost savings with vehicle and driver operation. At the present time a major factor is the cost of gas/diesel fuel.

We have surveyed surrounding counties in 1995 and 2006, 1995 results are on file as all responded, 2006 very few responded and they are not compiled.

SURVEY ENTAILED

Vehicles – the number of vehicles, exclusive or multi use, seating capacity and wheelchair accessible.

Passengers – the number of veterans transported yearly, number of non-veterans transported yearly, how they are scheduled and advance notice time frame.

FUNDING

How the service is funded both operation and vehicles, paid or volunteer drivers.

MISCELLANEOUS

Length of time service has been provided, time frame of regular hours of service at the VA Hospital and/or other clinics.

OTHER FUNCTIONS

Locations, times, telephone numbers of VA Counselor in your county and location of VA sponsored medical clinics.

Schoharie County VA Office Tuesday & Wednesday 9:00a.m. – 3:00p.m.

VETERANS TRANSPORTATION SURVEY

2008

County SCHOHARIE

VEHICLES

1. How many vehicles do you use exclusively for veterans?
2. Do you use the ^{Bus} ~~van~~ to transport other clients to nearby appointments at the same time as veterans?
3. What is the seating capacity of your vehicles?
4. Do your vehicles have wheel chair lifts?
5. How many miles are traveled per year exclusively for veterans? *& others.*
6. What days do you go to the Veteran's Hospital?

one

yes. ^{Tri-City area}

8-25 depending

yes. (all)

38,282

→ included in Rt. 20 Route.

Mon.

Tues.

Wed.

Thu.

Fri.

PASSENGERS

1. Average number of non-veterans transported per year?
2. Average number of veterans transported per year?
3. Who schedules riders and how much advance notice do you require? 400 pm previous day - SPT

2,363

984

3,347

FUNDING

1. How is your veteran's transportation funded?
2. Are your drivers paid or volunteers?

Included in Public System. STDA.
Section 5311 - Fares.
County gov. - paid.

Employees of Senior Council

MISCELLANEOUS

1. How long has veteran's transportation been available?
2. What are your hours at the Veteran's Hospital?
Example: 7:00 am to 3:00 pm / 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

1992.

7:30 Am. start.
3:00 pm. depart Albany
4:00 pm. arrive in
LoBlanc

STATE
14. Rep. in Schoharie County - Charlie Bees, Co. Office Bldg. Baseema. (SCHOHARIE)
Dues: 900 am - 300 pm. Wed. 900 pm - 300 pm.
VA. County Rep. Eileen Fisher - 295-8304.

SCPT Coordination
with
Bordering Counties on
Veterans Transportation

May 13, 2008

Schoharie County Public Transportation

I have made contact either in person or telephone calls to Otsego, Delaware and Greene Counties. (See written report of each.) These counties are the ones that we could coordinate with the most. We are also bordered by Montgomery, Schenectady and Albany, which I will contact soon. We may be in a better position to assist them rather they assist us.

We started Veterans Transportation in February 1992 two days a week and increased to four days a week within a two-week period. After a few years we went to a complete five-day a week service and have maintained that to date. At first Veterans Transportation was part of the Senior Citizen Bus System. In 1998 all routes became part of a coordinated Public Transportation System (Senior, Veteran, Medicaid & the General Public).

Our Rt. #20 operates five days a week starting in Cobleskill at 7:30a.m.; Rt. 7/Rt. 145 Park & Ride; two stops in the Village of Middleburgh; the County Office Building in Schoharie and Rt. 30A/I-88 Park & Ride at 8:20a.m. We continue on to the VA Hospital in Albany, which is our first stop and then transport anywhere in the Tri-City areas depending on passenger request.

We leave the Tri-City area no later than 3:00p.m. or sooner if everyone is finished with their medical appointment, shopping, visiting, etc.

Our Veteran service is provided at no charge to our Veterans or their spouses. All other passengers pay a fare of \$6.00 round trip or \$3.00 in tokens if 60+ in age. In 2007 we transported a total of 60 Veterans resulting in 984 Veteran transports.

Page 2

This route is funded as part of a Public System with STOA (State Transportation Operating Assistance), Fares, Bus Advertising and County support.

We are a County Department with a contract to the Schoharie County Council of Senior Citizens acting as the Operator. The Senior Council employees the drivers and support staff. The Director, Fiscal Staff and two Mechanics are county personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

Ethel Benninger
PR Specialist

SCPT Coordination Meeting
with
Otsego County
Regarding Veterans Transportation

May 8, 2008
9:30a.m. – 12:00p.m.

Attending: Ethel Benninger, PR Specialist, SCPT, Dawn Klopman, MA Scheduler, SCPT
Tex Seaman, Veterans Transportation Coordinator Otsego County (607) 547-4224 and
Marty Seaman, Birnie Bus, Otsego County

Tex and Ethel met regarding how our counties could coordinate Veteran's Transportation to the VA Hospital in Albany. This would enable both counties to effectively cut down on cost and duplication by helping each other.

Ethel had prepared a map of our county showing the bordering counties and how we could perhaps coordinate together.

Otsego County's Veteran Transportation is County Funded and receives \$82,000.00 with an additional \$5,000.00 from the State Veterans Organization.

Tex and Ethel had a good conversation and will follow up on some things we need to clear through our respective counties. The Otsego County van sometimes goes via Cherry Valley – Rt. 20 to Albany other times Oneonta – Worcester Rt. 7 or I-88.

After the DOT meeting in Cooperstown on May 16, 2008 Ethel will prepare enhanced data. We discussed a central clearing house for calls to enable multi-counties to know what each other is doing. This is a must for effective working relationships.

Marty, Birnie Bus arrived and Dawn came in. We then discussed how some Medicaid clients could, perhaps work into the Birnie Bus system. Marty left several Birnie Bus schedules for Dawn that we need to look at.

Ethel also had prepared a drawing on an Otsego/Schoharie County map indicating the route(s) used by both SCPT and Birnie Bus to transport to Cooperstown and return. There are two possible routes, perhaps twice a day and three times a week to start. More planning is needed. At this point we need a bus, etc. so we are in the definite planning stage.

Page 2

We plan to meet with the Veteran counterparts in both Delaware and Greene Counties.

NOTE: Schoharie County will be hiring a part-time Veterans Service Officer soon and Ethel will work with that individual when hired.

Respectfully submitted,

Ethel Benninger,
PR Specialist

SCPT Coordination Conversation
With
Delaware County veterans Service

May 12, 2008
9:45a.m.

Telephone Call To: Tel. No.: 607 746-2334
FAX NO.: 607 746-2385

Robert Johnson, Director
1 Gallant Dr., Highway Annex 3
Delhi, NY 13753

I called the above individual to discuss possible coordination between counties for Veterans Transportation to the VA Hospital in Albany, NY. He informed me they are funded through Title 20 Medicaid via the local Department of Social Services.

Therefore due to liability issues they can NOT transport passengers from another county ONLY there own Veterans and any individual on Medicaid.

The vehicles are replaced every three (3) years (vans) and the cost of the driver is covered. They usually come from Delhi on Rt. 10 to Richmondville and either Rt. 10 or I-88 to Albany; sometimes via Rt. 30 depending on where the passengers are from.

This would be an ideal situation regarding the route they travel. However, due to restrictions it is not possible. Mr. Johnson will send us a copy of their contract with DSS.

Respectfully submitted,

Ethel Benninger
PR Specialist

SCPT Coordination Conversation
with
Greene County Veterans Service

May 12, 2008
12:15p.m.

Telephone Call To: Tel. No.: 518 943-3703
Jack Van Loan, Director
Greene County Veterans Service Agency
Greene Medical Arts Building, Ste. A104
159 Jefferson Heights
Catskill, NY 12414

I talked with Jack regarding coordination of Veterans Transportation with bordering counties. He informed me they are a county agency under the Board of Supervisors.

They presently have one twelve (12) passenger van with back up and it operates Monday, Wednesday, Friday to the VA Hospital in Albany. Service is for Veterans and family members only. They made approximately 1,100-1,200 trips last year.

IN THE FUTURE

The local AMVETS organization is considering purchasing a DAV van to transport veterans to a VA Clinic in Catskill that is currently not provided.

Also Greene County Planning Agency is in the process of doing a survey within Greene County to determine who does what. The emphasis is on a future coordination plan.

We had a nice conversation regarding how both counties provide our services.

Page 2

Jack does not believe anyone from Schoharie County has gone in to the VA Hospital with the Greene County Veterans.

However, he is not opposed to our veterans going with Greene County on the condition they have available space (Greene County residents first) and they have to meet their vehicle within their County.

We will keep in touch as changes take place.

Respectfully submitted,

Ethel Benninger
PR Specialist

SCPT Coordination Conversation
With
Montgomery County Veterans Service

June 3, 2008
1:30p.m.

Telephone Call To: Tel. No.: 518 853-8152
Dan Roth, Director
Chris (I spoke with)
Montgomery County Veterans Services
P.O. Box 1500
Fonda, NY 12068

I called to speak with Dan Roth, newly hired Director. He was at a meeting so I talked with Chris (office) and had a good conversation. She explained their system as follows.

They pick up Montgomery County Veterans at their home, transport to the VA Hospital and return them to their residency. It is on a first call basis. They have one ten (10) passenger van but only take a maximum of eight (8) passengers due to the comfort of the passenger. They operate Monday – Friday five days a week leaving Fonda at 6:30a.m., pick up passengers and arrive in Albany, NY at the VA Hospital approximately 9:00a.m.-9:30a.m. They transported 1,189 Veteran trips in 2007.

Fulton County sub-contracts with Montgomery to take their Veterans also. Three pick up points and the cost is \$20.00 one-way or \$40.00 round-trip. Fulton County also operates a DAV vehicle with volunteer drivers who provide transportation for them.

Chris said they are certainly not opposed to any coordination we can do to help one another.

She will send me a Montgomery County map. They are located in the County Annex Building (old school) in Fonda, NY

Told her I may stop in sometime if in the area.

Respectfully submitted,

Ethel Benninger
Public Relations Specialist

COORDINATION

**SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION**

AND

SCHOHARIE COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU

COORDINATION
SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
AND
SCHOHARIE COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU

First, we will get together with Sara Robertson, Youth Director and discuss the Youth Bureau needs in detail. When we sent out our GAP Survey Sara was one of the agencies that completed the survey.

Present Time:

Students from Cobleskill-Richmondville Central, Schoharie Central and Middleburgh Central Schools have excellent service now. Four times per day four loops going and four loops returning times two routes (Rt. #1 & Rt. #3) six days per week from 7:00a.m. – 6:00p.m.

Need to Address:

Jefferson Central, Gilboa-Conesville Central and Sharon Springs Central Schools and the areas only served once per week to come to Cobleskill. We need to determine the need(s) and hopefully work on some alternatives.

We plan to get all local transportation providers together in the near future, get to know each other and what each can and cannot do within our systems. We are now considering including a contact person from each school district.

We welcome thoughts and suggestions from Supervisors so if you are interested when the meeting is set up, please let us know.

Respectfully submitted, Ethel Benninger, PR Specialist

Susan Loden
PO Box 67
Gallupville, NY 12073

April 1, 2008

Schoharie County Transportation
Transportation Oversight Committee

Dear Pat and Committee Members,

I am writing to you partly in my role as Chair of the oversight committee for the Youth Bureau, but more so as a taxpayer and someone concerned about our environment and dependence on oil.

We are fortunate to be a rural county with public transportation. I would like to see public transportation become more of a daily part of our lives. Since humans are often creatures of habit, it is more likely we will continue to hop in our cars and be on our way. So how do we change this habit? We need to teach our young people a different way.

The world has become much smaller. When we were growing up we played with the kids around the block. Today's kids interact with kids in neighboring towns. We need to make our children aware of public transportation in our rural community. We need to make it "cool" so they will want to use it. But we also need to make it available for their needs.

Our Youth Bureau Director is working on hosting several teen nights around the county for the kids. Unfortunately, as it stands only the kids in that particular area will probably go unless parents from neighboring towns are willing to transport. As gas approaches \$3.50 a gallon people are beginning to think about unnecessary trips. But it is important for the kids to interact. If we could make the public transportation available for the kids it's a win for public transportation and a win for the kids.

I understand there are guidelines that need to be followed in operating public transportation. But maybe it is time to think outside the box. Isn't it important to change our habits and make public transportation more a part of our daily lives. It will help with our own economic situation and it will help our environment. We need to make public transportation meet our needs not make our needs to meet public transportation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sue Loden

Coordination Meeting
May 22, 2008
9:00a.m.
at
SCPT

Attending: Sara Robertson, Director Youth Bureau, Ethel Benninger, PR Specialist & Patricia A. Cooper, Director SCPT

Ethel gave Sara a copy of the survey and the Gap Survey.

Sara is required to do a three-year plan and transportation was a part of it. She would like to have a County Youth Center with daily on going activities. A bus route to transport to and from the Center is Sara's hope.

Sara is preparing a Needs Assessment Survey to gather the information for a plan for the Center – location, need, etc. Discussion. One thought was to have a School District drop and P/Trans return to school for a parent pick up.

EB – 6 school districts – run programs from schools a possibility.

Review of all of the current route schedules and how to work within the schedule and abide by NYS DOT Rules & Regulations.

EB will prepare a draft survey and joint letter for School Districts. Draft will be sent to Sara for her input / changes.

When finalized cover letter and survey will be mailed to the six County School Districts. The purpose is to see if any schools allow vehicles to be used by outside organizations within moderation.

Draft prepared and Faxed to Sara on 5/30/08.

COORDINATION
SCHOHARIE COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU
JULY 9, 2008

The finalized letter and survey have been mailed to the six County School Districts regarding transportation usage. I will follow-up with any that do not respond in a timely fashion.

I attended Youth Task Force Meeting on June 18, 2008 it was very informative with good input from those in attendance. I will be notified of future meetings.

They are doing an inventory of all services and needs for youth and who does what. A good way to be compiled would be according to specific categories as well as specific townships. Recreation Programs, Library, Coats for Kids, Little leagues, T-Ball, Facilities, etc.

The Youth Task Force is considering doing a Calendar Events Program and I mentioned the Chamber of Commerce maintains one they may want to coordinate with them.

Respectfully yours,

Ethel Benninger
P.R. Specialist

SCHOHARIE COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
114 Rock Road
Cobleskill, NY 12043

Telephone No. 518 234-0952
FAX No. 518 234-2046

MEMO TO: Six Schoharie County School District Superintendents

FROM: Patricia A. Cooper, Director, Schoharie County Public Transportation
Ethel Benninger, Public Relations Specialist, Schoharie
County Public Transportation
Sara Robertson, Director, Schoharie County Youth Bureau

RE: Transportation Survey to Determine Usage of School Buses / Other Vehicles

We at Schoharie County Public Transportation (SCPT) are working on compiling a Comprehensive Plan on transportation systems and needs within Schoharie County. To date, we have finished a survey of all County Providers (see attached compiled report). In addition to local coordination, we are also working with our surrounding County Providers to address ways to assist each other. Locally we have done a GAP Survey to determine needs not currently being met.

One of those needs is our Youth Bureau Programs finding ways to transport our County Youth to and from sponsored functions. It is with this component in mind we are turning to our local school districts to determine any possibilities of transportation assistance. This need would be in County and/or very limited to a radius of fifth (50) miles outside of the County limits.

We realize each of us has rules and regulations we must abide by. However, we would appreciate your school's data hopefully returned to us by the attached survey.

Please feel free to use additional pages if you wish to explain something in further detail.

When all schools have responded, we will compile the data and send the results to each district.

If you have any questions please call Ethel Benninger, PR Specialist at 518 234-0952 for additional details.

Thanking you in advance.

TRANSPORTATION SURVEY
SCHOHARIE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS
(Data Reflecting Calendar year 2008)

SCHOOL DISTRICT

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TEL. NO. _____ E-MAIL: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

VEHICLES

NO. OF VEHICLES: _____ CAPACITY RANGE: _____

HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE: _____ DOT INSP: _____

SERVICES

SERVICE PROVIDED: _____

OTHER: _____

CURRENT YEAR RIDERSHIP: _____ CURRENT YR MILES: _____

COMMUNITY FUNCTION

1. Are your buses/cars used for school functions and students ONLY _____
yes | no

2. Can your buses/cars be contracted by outside entities? _____
yes | no

2a. Limited to your school district students only? _____
yes | no

Please explain (#2 & 2a if answer is yes)

REGIONAL COUNTY COORDINATION

Additional coordination needs to be addressed between all providers and we continue to work on this.

SCPT hosted a regional brain storming session in October 2007 with surrounding counties. The counties invited were Delaware, Fulton, Greene, Montgomery, Otsego and Schoharie. All present felt this was very successful. A second get-together was hosted by Otsego County Planning & Development in March 2008. We plan to meet three to four times per year and rotate the meetings among the counties. Next sponsored meeting will be hosted by Montgomery County. DOT continues to work with coordinating counties as well.

ROUTE EXPANSION

We have applied to have our Operating Authority revised, which was approved. This will allow us to operate in Otsego, Rensselaer and Saratoga Counties.

We are planning a new public route to Cooperstown early August 2008. To start the route will cover three (3) days per week – Monday-Wednesday-Friday. This will enable us to transport several Medicaid Clients that are currently transported by County cars. This was one of the suggestions by Soule Consulting Firm in 2005.

OTSEGO COUNTY COORDINATION

A mutual arrangement has been in place with Birnie Bus. They bring passengers to Cobleskill and SCPT transports them by our Rt. #20 Route to the Tri-Cities Area.

We will address the reverse of Cobleskill to Cooperstown with Birnie Bus on days we do not operate to Cooperstown.

This same type of arrangement is being pursued with the Otsego County Veterans Agency. All providers have gotten to know each other and a very positive working relationship is in place.